

LOUISIANA NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION  
LANGEA NEWS & VIEWS



You Belong



September 2, 2003

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

As I was returning from the EANGUS national conference last month, I was trying to decide what was the single most important issue covered there. A recurring theme seemed to run through all of the speeches we heard, **“Be ready.”** The NGB Chief Of Staff said, **“Be ready”** Both Army and Air National Guard Generals said, **“ Be ready.”** Both the Army Guard CSM and the Air Guard CCM said, **“ Be ready.”** They all said we have to be **“Ready, Reliable, and Relevant”** because this war is not over. We must be able to join our Active Duty counterparts as seamlessly as possible. To do this, we must take every advantage of the training time allowed us and ensure our younger soldiers and airmen are up to speed and ready to go at a moment's notice. (Recently there was a bill introduced in Congress to reduce the amount of days we were allowed for drill and AT. Luckily, EANGUS was able to have the bill rescinded.)

As you can see, the strength of numbers worked in getting the bill to cut our training days rescinded. It is only through the strength of our membership that we were able to do this. Once again I challenge everyone to get the word out to your fellow Guardsmen and tell them why it is important to become a member of LANGEA and EANGUS. The “Each One Get One” idea proposed by State CCM Kirby is a wonderful opportunity to spread the word about our organization and increase membership. Remember, the one with the most referrals by our next State Conference will win a \$50.00 gift certificate from CCM Kirby.

*Michael Matirne, TSgt*

**FROM THE STATE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR**

I would like to first say that I am proud to serve as your Louisiana Army Guard CSM. Our young soldiers are deployed all over the world. It is great to see them as they return home with outstanding attitudes.

Our enlisted association does many good things for our soldiers. Louisiana always does its part by having a large number of members in our great association. But, we can always use another. Let's do our part by getting out and recruiting new members so our voice can be louder and stronger on Capitol Hill. Get involved and stay involved.

Thank you for all that you do for our great nation. God bless you all.  
*John R. Morrow, CSM*

## FROM THE STATE COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

My thoughts today are on membership. It is very difficult for us to believe the importance of one person until you think about some very close elections that were lost by less than 10 votes. This happened in Louisiana several years ago and you can only imagine what the supporters of both candidates were thinking after the numbers were tallied: "If only I had just one more person!!"

The truth is that numbers do count and your benefits count on the numbers being there. We are in a unique situation with the war on terrorism going on. The country needs us and we have an opportunity to increase our benefits now more than ever before.

I am proposing that Louisiana DOUBLE our membership this year by recalling a program that we had several years ago called "*EACH ONE GET ONE*". I'm not asking you to pay for their membership, I am asking that you tell your fellow Guardsmen how important their membership is to their benefits now and in the future.

If each person gets just one person to join, our membership will be over 6,000- the largest in the nation for any single state! Can you imagine the impact that would have when we are talking to our Congressmen and Senators? It would show them that Louisiana Guardsmen care about their benefits and want not just to keep what we have, but increase them as well.

So, when you go to your unit, ask your co-worker about joining and becoming a part of something good and beneficial to them. Make your membership count-get the benefits you deserve!

*Glenn R. Kirby, CCM*

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A good part of what binds us as Louisiana Guard Family is our commitment to looking out for one another; and part of that effort can be telling our comrades about the importance and value of being a member of the Louisiana National Guard Enlisted Association (LANGEA) and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS). Please take the opportunity to spread the word about the importance of joining these organizations--organizations that are dedicated to be our voice to the State Legislature and the United States Congress, to bring about change for the betterment and strengthening of the Guard.

**Please note that the following is now being loaded in the LANGEA web site for your use:**

- A listing of memberships expiring during September through November 03. (Forms to renew membership are available at the LANGEA web site)
- A registration form for the EANGUS Area IV Mid Winter Conference, set for 16-18 January 04, in Hot Springs, Arkansas. (An opportunity to join with Guard brothers and sisters, and spouses from Kansas, Missouri, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma to plan for the upcoming National Conference, and for fellowship, and after hours festivities)
- A registration form for the LANGEA State Conference set for 26-28 March 04, in New Orleans. (An opportunity to join with Louisiana Guard brothers and sisters and spouses from throughout the State to get involved in the business of our organization, and for fellowship and festivities—including golf and bowling tournaments, a formal banquet, and a hospitality night.)
- LANGEA and EANGUS scholarship information. (Now is the time to prepare to apply.)

If you have any questions about membership in LANGEA and EANGUS, or any of the above web site information, please call me at work: 504-278-8711, home: 985-624-8170, or at my cell number: 504-858-5095.

***Michael S. Bannon, CMSgt (Retired)***

internal webserver - <http://www.lang.ngb.army.mil/laea/langea.html>

external webserver - <http://www.la.ngb.army.mil/laea/langea.html>